

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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INFO HICOMTERPACIF SAIPAN

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY FOR FITZSIMMONDS
DEPT PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA-OMSN (NORTHERN MARIANAS
REPRESENTATIVE PANGELINAN)
HICOM PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAID, ETRD, JA, TQ
SUBJECT: VISIT OF NORTHERN MARIANAS OFFICIALS TO TOKYO

REF: TOKYO 11166

1. SUMMARY. NORTHERN MARIANAS OFFICIAL VISITORS TO
JAPAN HAVE RETURNED TO SAIPAN AFTER EXPLORING POSSIBILITY
OF GETTING BAN LIFTED ON IMPORT OF NMI AGRICULTURE
PRODUCE INTO JAPAN AND OF RECEIVING JAPANESE TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE. AT PRESENT, PROSPECT FOR FORMER APPEARS
BRIGHTER THAN FOR LATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. LT GOV ADA AND MR. SABLAN OF NORTHERN MARIANAS
GOVERNMENT VISITED TOKYO JUNE 22 TO JULY 1 TO DISCUSS
TRADE AND AID QUESTIONS WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT. AFTER
PRIVATELY ARRANGED COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF AGRI-
CULTURE, VISITORS DISCUSSED THEIR INTERESTS IN DETAIL
IN WORKING LEVEL MEETINGS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND AGRI-
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CULTURE MINISTRY.

3. VISITORS DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF GAINING ADMISSION TO
JAPAN FOR NORTHERN MARIANAS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE WITH
AGRICULTURE MINISTRY PLANT QUARANTINE DIVISION MEMBERS.
RECENT UNPUBLISHED STUDY BY U.S. SCIENTIST INDICATES
NORTHERN MARIANAS NOW ARE FREE OF FRUIT FLY; PLANT

QUARANTINE DIVISION EXPLAINED TO VISITORS THE FORM IN WHICH TO SUBMIT THE STUDY TO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SO THAT AGRICULTURE MINISTRY WOULD BE ABLE TO INITIATE PROCEDURES FOR REVIEWING PLANT QUARANTINE BAN ON IMPORT OF NORTHERN MARIANAS PRODUCE.

4. VISITORS' CALL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ON NORTH AMERICA AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SPECIALISTS ELICITED REITERATION OF JAPANESE POSITION THAT CURRENT JAPANESE POLICY DOES NOT OFFER MUCH PROSPECT OF NORTHERN MARIANAS' BEING INCLUDED AMONG JAPANESE AID RECIPIENTS (REFTEL).

5. NMI VISITORS, EXPRESSING AWARENESS THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, PROVIDED EXPLANATION OF NORTHERN MARIANAS DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS, AND THEY GAVE ARGUMENTS WHICH MIGHT JUSTIFY EXCEPTION FAVORING NORTHERN MARIANAS IN JAPANESE AID POLICY (NMI NEARNESS TO JAPAN; NMI NEED FOR TRAINING IN ORDER TO USE LARGE STOCK OF JAPANESE-MADE EQUIPMENT; LARGE NUMBER OF JAPANESE VISITORS).

6. JAPANESE INQUIRED WHAT SORTS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NORTHERN MARIANAS WANTED AND WHAT RELATION SUCH ASSISTANCE WOULD BEAR TO U.S. POLICY. VISITORS EXPLAINED THAT TRAINING FOR NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICIANS AND PROVISION OF SPECIAL-PURPOSE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO NMI AND THAT JAPANESE AID WOULD BE USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES. THE VISITORS UNCLASSIFIED

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ADDED THAT NMI GOVERNMENT WOULD WELCOME A VISIT FROM A JAPANESE TEAM TO SURVEY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE POSSIBILITIES IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS. INVITATION DREW MIXED AND INDEFINITE RESPONSE; IT WAS SUGGESTED (BY DIFFERENT JAPANESE PARTICIPANTS) THAT JAPAN-NMI CONTACT ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COULD BEST BE HANDLED (AT LEAST TO BEGIN WITH) IN WRITTEN FORM, AND/OR THAT WHERE JAPANESE BUSINESS VISITORS ARE SO NUMEROUS AN OFFICIAL JAPANESE VISIT ALSO WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

7. LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ADA AND MR. SABLAN EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT HAVING OBTAINED DURING VISIT CLEARER PICTURE OF "WHERE TO GO FROM HERE" WITH OFFICIAL JAPANESE CONTACTS. EMBASSY WILL BE GLAD TO FACILITATE FURTHER EXCHANGES AS APPROPRIATE. MANSFIELD

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